

# RUSSIANS NOW ON THE OFFENSIVE ALONG THE POLISH FRONT

Armies Under Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Gen. von Mackensen Are Compelled to Take Up New Positions.

## PRZEMYSL SORTIES HAVE BEEN REPULSED

Austrians Suffer Heavy Losses in Attempt to Raise Siege—Turkish Army Defeated After a Two-Day Battle.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 31.—The Russians are now upon the offensive all along the line in Poland and Galicia. The German armies under Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Oberst-Gen. von Mackensen have been compelled to take up new positions by the vigor of the Russian attacks west of Warsaw. The Austrian army under Gen. Boehmermuller, which was sent to reinforce the Austrians retreating through the Dukla pass and envelop the left wing of the Russian army in the Carpathian mountain district, has been broken up and is in danger of annihilation.

Sorties from the besieged Austrian fortress at Przemyśl have been repulsed with heavy losses. The Turkish army which had advanced in Trans-Caucasia to Sarikamish, 47 miles from the Turkish border, has been defeated after a two-day battle, and is in retreat.

These are the salient features of official telegrams received by the Russian general staff today from field headquarters at Warsaw in the Russo-Austro-German theater of war and from Tiflis in the Russo-Turkish amphitheater of hostilities.

Russian Advance Steady. The Russians' advance has been steady since Sunday, especially in the sphere of operations south of the Vistula. The ability of Grand Duke Nicholas to place fresh formations upon his battle front to oppose the worn-out German troops, has compelled Oberst-Gen. von Mackensen and Field Marshal von Hindenburg to change their plan of campaign and to retire to other positions on the Bzura and Rakwa rivers.

The defeat of Gen. Boehmermuller's Austrian army, which was hurried forward under forced marching to reinforce the Austrians troops around Dukla pass, is in retreat. It is possible through hilly country where there are no fortresses to give it shelter. The ground which is being yielded enables the Russians to take up positions of great strength, thus menacing still further the German troops under von Mackensen.

Railroads are scarce in the region through which the Austrians are retreating and the roads are so bad that the infantry can make but painful progress. The Russian cavalry, which is in the vanguard of the pursuers, is cutting down hundreds of stragglers and taking other hundreds of prisoners of war.

Abandoning Assaults. In Poland the Russian positions are satisfactory at every point, thanks to mastery strategy of Grand Duke Nicholas. Field Marshal von Hindenburg has been compelled to abandon his assaults on the road converging at Warsaw and his forces are now on the defensive.

The position held by the Germans on the right bank of the Bzura a few miles north of Sochaczew has been abandoned by them.

Hard fighting is in progress around Bolimow where the Germans are resisting the advance of the Russians with the courage of despair. A battle is raging around Gombin, between Lowicz and the Vistula river, where the Germans have thrown forward the tower of their invading army in the fray. The early stages of this engagement have been favorable to the Russians who captured a whole platoon of quick firing guns. The Russians are again driving in the direction of Cracow from a point immediately east of Zakliczyn. First, however, they must force a passage to the Dunajec river at that point. Zakliczyn is only 35 miles southeast of Cracow.

There is a hard fight for trenches south of Nowoliz.

Turks Are Repulsed. The following statement relative to operations against the Turks is given out:

"The Turks in great force attacked the Russians in the neighborhood of Sarikamish on Dec. 25, but were repulsed with heavy losses. They lost many guns and quick firers. After the Russians had silenced the Turkish guns the Turks were reinforced. At the time, however, Russian reinforcements also arrived on the field. The fighting then went on all night with varying fortunes. All arms were engaged on both sides. Finally the Turks were compelled to retreat and were pursued by our cavalry.

"Refugees report that the Turks are ravaging the Armenian villages through which they pass."

## TOO MUCH SOCIETY CAUSES SUICIDE

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 31.—Suffering from a nervous collapse, the result it is said, of too frequent participation in social functions in her home city, Miss Marion F. Howard, 21 years old, and a member of one of the wealthiest and most prominent families in St. Louis, committed suicide at the Marlborough-Blenheim hotel here Wednesday.

# Independence Means Seizure of Philippines By Another Power, Declares Worcester

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Early independence of the Philippines would mean seizure of the islands by some other power, Dean C. Worcester, former member of the Philippine commission today told the senate committee on the Philippines at the hearing on the Jones bill granting a larger measure of self government to the islands.

"There would be a quarrel for the offices," he said. "Elections would soon become farces. The contending factions would be so far at odds that armed violence would occur and in the end there would be bloodshed and anarchy. This condition would probably be followed in various places by aggressions against foreigners on the part of the ignorant element and aggression would mean foreign intervention. If the islands become fully independent, intervention would lead to the taking possession of the islands by some other power beyond the peradventure of a doubt."

Worcester criticized various features of the bill, praised the growth of education and general improvements during the American occupation and said that while it was unsafe for natives to express themselves as opposed to independence, he felt sure that this condition would

# BRITISH ARE SURE OF SETTLEMENT OF AMERICAN NOTE

General Opinion Grows That England's Reply Will Result in Amicable Settlement of Protest Over Shipping.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The feeling that there will be a speedy and amicable settlement of Pres't Wilson's protest against British interference with American shipping on the high seas was strong here today. There was another meeting of the British cabinet at which Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign minister, presided and afterward it was reported that the foreign office is now in a position to draft the outlines of England's reply to the American note.

The formal reply will probably be determined early next week through Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador at Washington. The solution will probably be this: The British government will make arrangements with neutral countries through which American goods might pass to Great Britain's enemies, which will make these countries "water-tight" insofar as the possibility of export therefrom of contrabands is concerned. By this it is meant that the neutral governments of such countries as Italy, Holland and Denmark will be compelled to prohibit the passage of goods into Germany and Austria. When this "water-tight" arrangement is made England will be able to relax the rigors of searching American and other ships which will obviate the long delays and inconvenience of which Pres't Wilson complained.

Newspaper Comment Continues. British newspapers continued today to discuss the American note at length. The Standard in its leading editorial warned the country that the American protest is a serious one and should not be treated lightly or heartily. The Standard goes on to say that the sentiment in the United States in favor of the allies is less pronounced than it was three months ago and that it is yielding in favor of Germany as the under-dog in the fight against great odds.

"Therefore," the paper says, "if any solution is possible the United States should be met halfway."

The Morning Post contends that American copper exporters have by no means been ruined, declaring that in September and October, 1913, they sold 100,000 pounds of copper in Italy, Holland, Norway and Sweden, and that in the same months this year they sold the same customers 50,000,000 pounds.

The tone of the editorials in the evening papers was studiously restrained.

Here's What Papers Say. The most interesting parts follow:

THE EVENING STANDARD:—"From the manner in which the American note is treating Pres't Wilson's note it is abundantly clear that the friendly, frank attitude adopted in the note fully reflects the opinion of the United States. There is no attempt being made to embarrass this country at a time when an approach to this would be the reverse of friendly. Further than that there is now an inclination to put the question of contrabands on a more definite footing. International friction or the reverse should not be at the mercy of individual traders. Meanwhile, Washington is quite frank in reiterating its amiable attitude and intentions toward us. The resources of diplomacy are by no means exhausted."

FALL MAIL GAZETTE:—"These who refused yesterday to get excited over the American note have better reason still this morning to be convinced that they were in the right. We may quietly leave the matter in the hands of Sir Edward Grey."

Globe Continues Bitter. THE GLOBE:—"America's contention is that belligerents have no right to resort to any measures, however necessary, for the vindication of their own interests which conflict with the interests of neutral states. That startling doctrine, however it may be recognized in theory, must inevitably be frustrated in practice. In the present war it would have been legitimate for us to include cotton in the contrabands. But to the cotton growers in the United States we have shown consideration which the American government refused to show the Lancashire manufacturers. 50 years ago, cotton was removed entirely from the contraband list in order that the

# GREAT CROWD TO HEAR PRESIDENT AT INDIANAPOLIS

Wilson Expected to Give Account of His Administration When he Speaks at Jackson Day Banquet in Capital.

Special to News-Times.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 31.—The news that Woodrow Wilson will come to Indiana Jan. 5 to help Indiana democracy celebrate Jackson day and incidentally to announce to the country—as practically all leaders here see it—that his administration has been following democratic principles and that he will be a candidate for reelection in 1916, has set the political world here alive.

Politicians and the genus common to them stood in hotel lobbies here and discussed the visit of the president. There will be the greatest crowd on hand to hear him speak that day that a democratic president ever has seen assembled in Indiana. It is confidently expected.

Democrats here see the climax of a situation which has been developing for weeks, in Wilson's coming. On the heels of several types of investigations of election and other tangles, which have been charged up against the element of the democratic party which leaders now seek to eliminate in the coming legislature, the coming of Wilson is an omen of good luck, the prominent democrats believe.

Dispatches from Washington which say that the president feels he has kept silent personally on the doings of his administration long enough—that the people are entitled to know at first hand what he has been doing and what he intends to do. Anyway one looks at it the occasion is to be one of hilarious jollity for the democrats in Indiana. Some are talking of the possibility of having the president address the legislature. This is not probable. It is highly probable the legislature will adjourn following the next Monday, next, until Saturday, giving the legislature an opportunity to hear Wilson and meet many democratic leaders from all over the state. Thousands will come from towns and cities of Indiana to catch a glimpse of the president.

The crowd that will assemble in the senate chamber for a day-long banquet, at which the president will speak, probably will be the closing feature of the day.

The legislative positions as employees of the house and senate in the next legislature seemingly are as secure this year as the proverbial hen's teeth. For few of the principal jobs in the house and senate have more than two candidates appeared and so far there has been no such conglomeration of candidates for the lesser clerkships as appeared two years ago.

Arthur Hamrick of Greencastle seems to be in the lead for the position of principal clerk to the house. For the position of assistant clerk to the house are mentioned two candidates, Dr. J. N. C. of Columbus county, and Harry Gardner of Logansport, a member of the 1912 house. J. L. Luther of South Bend is a candidate for chief doorkeeper of the senate.

For the position of chief doorkeeper of the house, C. E. Custer of Columbus is a candidate. The senate has held late in the afternoon in the superior court room where a formal vote of appreciation was given to the retiring judge.

Batson to Remain. Frank Watson, the court stenographer for the superior court, in the sheriff's office after Friday will be the new sheriff, with John Cully, now deputy clerk, and Frank Niedzgodski and James H. Smith. John M. Truax is the new county assessor and he has appointed as deputy his son, Roscoe Truax.

George Raab, who succeeded Frank Christoph, has appointed his brother John as his chief deputy. Miss Helen Dickey remains in the office as record clerk. Stanley H. Tobolski has been appointed deputy clerk to wait upon the superior court, while Louis Segety succeeds Frank Christoph, Jr., as probate clerk and clerk of the circuit court.

Tobolski Well Known. Stanley Tobolski is one of the well known going men of the west end, having lived in this city during his entire lifetime. He has had superior educational advantages. He spent four years in Notre Dame university and also five years at St. Cyril college in Chicago where he took up a medical course. His many friends are loud in their praise of him as a young man with a record above reproach and with ability and ideas certain to put him rapidly in the forefront.

Louis Segety was born in Hungary in 1888, but was brought to this city when he was only two years old. He has lived here ever since his arrival from the old country and during the last 10 years has been the support of a widowed mother. In 1905 he entered the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Co. where he rapidly advanced from the position of cabinet maker to that of departmental foreman. He is one of the most influential young Hungarians in the city. He was instrumental in having erected the Magyar Haz on Chapin st. He was financial secretary for that organization for three years and he is now president of the Magyar Athletic Club. During the last two years he has led a pennant-winning baseball team in the factory league.

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Jennie Bushkin, who has ignored the "hobble skirt" style, owes her life to that fact. She fell from a barge in the East river, but her wide skirt kept her afloat until help arrived.

# Old Regime at Court House Gives Way to New on Friday: Here Are Two New Deputies



LOUIS SEGETY. STANLEY TOBOLSKI.

A spirit of sadness and of joy combined prevailed at the court house Thursday where the finishing touches were being put on the terms of work by the various members of the old regime who must now step down and out. The sadness was in it all because the familiar scenes and the familiar work must be laid aside forever, but the joy was there also because the prospect of rest and of travel, perhaps, was not unwelcome after the years of toil.

The departing officials are not all certain as to what they will do. Sheriff Swanson is considering the proposition of locating in the country where health, prosperity and contentment dwell. Trustee Krueger is not fully decided as to his course but it is not probable that he will again enter the employ of the Studebakers or the Olivers for whom he has worked. Judge Van Fleet, it has been announced, will return to his law practice and will be in partnership with Schuyler Hubbell, J. A. Jester, who has served as bailiff of the superior court, will again take up his work as a carpenter and contracting carpenter.

Christophs to Travel. Frank Christoph, county clerk, and his wife, will spend the coming year in travel as will also Frank Christoph, Jr., who will go to the west where they will go to Lake Michigan, where he will visit for a week with George Lowitz after which he will visit in Illinois and in Iowa. On Jan. 12 he will leave for San Francisco from where he will go to Japan. It is his intention to go around the world if conditions in Europe will permit.

Mr. and Mrs. Christoph will leave on Jan. 12 for New Orleans, from where they will go to Havana, then to Colon, Panama, through the canal and back and then again to New Orleans from whence they will go to Phoenix, Ariz., and to San Francisco. They will tour the west, visit the Grand Canyon, and then return to South Bend from where they will motor to New York.

The change in the offices is being made quietly and with no interruption of the work inasmuch as the new officials have made themselves familiar with the work during the last few weeks. A called meeting of the bar association was held late in the afternoon in the superior court room where a formal vote of appreciation was given to the retiring judge.

Frank Watson, the court stenographer for the superior court, in the sheriff's office after Friday will be the new sheriff, with John Cully, now deputy clerk, and Frank Niedzgodski and James H. Smith. John M. Truax is the new county assessor and he has appointed as deputy his son, Roscoe Truax.

George Raab, who succeeded Frank Christoph, has appointed his brother John as his chief deputy. Miss Helen Dickey remains in the office as record clerk. Stanley H. Tobolski has been appointed deputy clerk to wait upon the superior court, while Louis Segety succeeds Frank Christoph, Jr., as probate clerk and clerk of the circuit court.

Tobolski Well Known. Stanley Tobolski is one of the well known going men of the west end, having lived in this city during his entire lifetime. He has had superior educational advantages. He spent four years in Notre Dame university and also five years at St. Cyril college in Chicago where he took up a medical course. His many friends are loud in their praise of him as a young man with a record above reproach and with ability and ideas certain to put him rapidly in the forefront.

Louis Segety was born in Hungary in 1888, but was brought to this city when he was only two years old. He has lived here ever since his arrival from the old country and during the last 10 years has been the support of a widowed mother. In 1905 he entered the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Co. where he rapidly advanced from the position of cabinet maker to that of departmental foreman. He is one of the most influential young Hungarians in the city. He was instrumental in having erected the Magyar Haz on Chapin st. He was financial secretary for that organization for three years and he is now president of the Magyar Athletic Club. During the last two years he has led a pennant-winning baseball team in the factory league.

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Jennie Bushkin, who has ignored the "hobble skirt" style, owes her life to that fact. She fell from a barge in the East river, but her wide skirt kept her afloat until help arrived.

# FRENCH FORCES ENTER STEINBACH IN GREAT FIGHT

Furious Hand-to-Hand Conflict Marks Entry Into City—Germans Make Gain in Champagne District, Paris Admits

## GERMAN NIGHT ATTACK REPULSED IN FLANDERS

Attempt of Teutons to Recapture Position of Becelaere Taken by Allies Tuesday, Results in Failure.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The French army which has been investing Steinbach, in upper Alsace, has entered the city facing the furious hand-to-hand conflicts with the Germans in the streets. Official announcement to this effect was made by the French war office today.

At the same time it was admitted that the Germans have made a gain in the Champagne district, to the west of La Ferme d'Alger, where two lines of French trenches were blown up.

At Mesnil-les-Hurlus, 27 miles southeast of Rheims, the French have taken the trenches of the German second line. In the Argonne the French blew up a mine and occupied the excavation.

Between the Meuse and Moselle German trenches about 150 meters in length, fell into the hands of the French. The official statement follows:

"From the sea as far as Alsace the day has been rather calm with the exception of a few artillery duels at some points. In Champagne to the west of La Ferme d'Alger, to the north of Sillery, on the Sector of Rheims, the enemy had, during the night blown up two of our trenches and afterward made an attack against them, which was repulsed."

Take Second-Line Trenches. "To the north of Mesnil-les-Hurlus we have taken the trenches of the second line of defense of the enemy. In the same region to the north of Lefevre de Beaulieu we also captured some trenches. The enemy made a counter attack, but it was repulsed, and we ourselves took the offensive in our counter attack."

"In the same region, and more to the east, the German forces, which were advancing to make a counter attack, were caught between the fire of our artillery and rolled back. In the Argonne, we blew up a mine and occupied the excavation, at the same time making slight progress."

Between the Meuse and Moselle in the region of the forest of Mortenay, 10 meters more or less of German trenches have fallen into our hands. In upper Alsace, our troops have entered the town of Steinbach and captured one-half of it after a terrific house-to-house combat."

Repulse Counter Attacks. Counter attacks delivered by the Germans in an attempt to recapture the position of the Becelaere-Bachendach road in West Flanders, which was taken by the allies on Tuesday, have been repulsed. The Germans attacked at night, but were driven back by the French and British who had erected fresh earthworks along the highway.

The point of German support captured by the allies was a patch of woods, extending around a hill south-east of Zonnebeke, which had been used by the Germans to screen some of their artillery. It lies north of the roadway and about five miles and a half east of Ypres.

The German bombardment of St. Georges continues. A gigantic artillery duel is in progress along 32 miles, stretching from a point east of Arras to Rosieres-en-Santerre, east of the French line. About 1,000 guns are in action there. The Germans are again bombarding Rheims.

Along the Argonne the hottest fighting is centered around a hill south of Paris, the forest of Gurie (the burned forest) St. Hubert and Apremont. All these places lie between the Alsace and Aisne rivers at the extreme northern part of the Argonne forest, approximately 20 to 24 miles west of Verdun. The Germans are trying to cut their way southward by means of bayonet attacks and sapping operations, until they can reach the lines of communication touching Verdun on the west.

Cold Follows Storms. The French forces attacking the Germans west of Meusebaix have made progress at upper Aspach in upper Alsace.

Cold weather has followed the storms which swept over the greater part of the battle front for three days. The abatement of the storms has been followed by aerial activity on both sides.

It is reported from Calais that part of the city of Dunkirk was burned by fire started by the bombs of German airmen who raided the city, killing about 15 persons.

# FRENCH BIG GUNS ARE DESTROYING BELGIAN CITIES

German Official Statement Says Artillery Has Systematically Destroyed Towns—Report Gains in Argonne.

BERLIN, (by wireless), Dec. 31.—An official statement issued by the German war office this afternoon says that the artillery of the allies has destroyed part of Westende in Belgium and that the big guns of the French have "systematically destroyed" Steinbach in upper Alsace.

According to the statement the Germans have made material gains in the western part of the Argonne region where they took several French trenches. Numerous French attacks around Rheims were repulsed. In the eastern theater of war, the statement says, the German army operating upon the Bzura has been able to maintain its offensive.

The announcement in full follows: "In the western theater of war, it was generally quiet on the coast yesterday. The enemy directed his fire upon Westende and destroyed part of the houses, without causing any military damage. An entire French company was annihilated when we blew up a line of trenches near La Ferme d'Alger and Auberville, southeast of Rheims. "Strong French attacks north of Châlons-Sur-Marne were everywhere repulsed."

Gains in Argonne. "In the western part of the Argonne region we gained considerable ground capturing several trenches, one behind the other. We took 350 French prisoners. French attacks in the region of Flirey, 14 miles north of Toul, nine miles west of Pont-a-Mousson, failed. "In the region of West Senheim, in upper Alsace, all French attacks broke down under the fire of our artillery. "The enemy's artillery systematically destroyed the houses in the village of Steinbach, which was in our possession."

"Our losses, however, were slight. "Eastern theater of war.—The situation in East Prussia and Poland, north of the Vistula (Vistula) unchanged. East of the Bzura the battles continue. Our offensive in the Rakwa district is progressing. On the eastern bank of the Pilica the situation is unchanged."

The statement is signed by the chief of army administration. "Prince Eitel-Friedrich, one of the sons of the Kaiser, has been promoted to command the first brigade of the imperial guards."

## RAILROAD HEAD DIES

Pres't Irwin of L. H. and St. L. Succumbs to Appendicitis.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 31.—Pres't Lucien J. Irwin of the Louisville, Henderson & St. Louis railroad, died Wednesday at a local infirmary after an operation for appendicitis.

## REPORT FRANCIS JOSEPH HAS ABDICATED THRONE

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The following news agency dispatch was received here today from Paris: "A report from Switzerland, which was published here today states that Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria has abdicated the throne of the dual monarchy."

It was impossible to obtain any confirmation of the above rumor and it received little credence in London.

NEW YORK.—"If you want to see something exciting, stand at the kitchen window and watch me," said Charles H. Higbee, a Staten Island Jeweler went to the yard and shot himself in the head. His recovery is doubtful. Business worries are blamed.